into the discussions with these companies?

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Madam, I have already submitted that it is not in our interest to go into the details of the discussions. But this point I made earlier that as soon as the presence of oil or natural gas is established in a particular block, we are free to join them for exploitation. And when we join them for exploitation, our share also increases and the technology is also absorbed by us.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No. 286.

**Transmission line for Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur**

*286. SHRI M. KADHARSHA:
DR C. SILVERA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) by when the work on 440 kms long 132 KV transmission line for supply of power to Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur is likely to be completed;

(b) whether it is a fact that work on Bhairabi (Mizoram) hydro-electric power corporation is going slow: and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and if not, by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. C. Silvera

**Statement**

(a) All portions of the 465 kms. long 132 KV transmission lines for evacuation of power from the Kopili-Khandong hydel project to Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura have been completed, except the Jiribam-Aizwal section which is expected to be completed in 1987-88.

(b) and (c) The construction work on the Dhaleshwari (Bhairabi) hydro-electric project has not yet commenced. The project could be considered for an investment decision after necessary inputs such as environmental and forest clearances have been tied up and the Central Electricity Authority has accorded its techno-economic approval.

DR. C. SILVERA: Madam Deputy Chairman, Mizoram is a very backward State and there is not enough power. The power we have is from Assam Government. There is no industry worth-mentioning because of want of power. Mr. Laldenga the Chief Minister of Mizoram has said that the clearance of the Bhairabi hydel project has been obtained from the Centre. But according to the reply now, it is otherwise. He accused of the Central Government and the previous State Governments of not giving importance to the overall development of the State especially the Bhairabi Hydel Project. May I know from the Hon. Minister is it because of the negligence on the part of the Central Government and the State Government that Bhairabi Hydel Project is not started or is it because of something else? Did an insurgency in the State play any part in this delay? How much of money will be the total investment and how much of power it will generate?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.